



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: June 6, 2005
Week Ending: June 5, 2005
CWP WA-CW2305

Rust Abated in Some Areas Strawberry Harvest Began

Field Crops

A week of mild weather combined with some rains over the weekend was reported in most areas of the state. Rust abated by last week's hot weather was reported in many areas. However, rust in winter wheat was still a concern in Adams, Franklin, Pend Oreille, and Spokane Counties. Christmas tree growers continued applying both insecticides and fungicides to plantations.

Livestock

Livestock producers continued harvesting forage and applying liquid manure to recently harvested fields. Some first cutting of alfalfa hay was affected by the showers. Second cutting of alfalfa hay began in some areas. Pacific County shellfish growers harvested third year oysters for processing and transplanted newly seeded clutch to grounds.

Fruits and Vegetables

Rain over the weekend prompted growers to use helicopters for drying fruit crops to avoid spitting of fruits. Strawberry harvesting began in Skagit and Thurston Counties. Thurston greenhouse tomato growers had prolific fruit set after last week's warm temperature. Home gardeners harvested lettuce, radishes, and green onions. Apple thinning and cover spraying were on-going in Benton County.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	5.8
Last Week	6.7

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	3	20	74	3
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	6	24	66	4
Subsoil	12	34	53	1
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	3	32	63	2
Irrigation Water	14	16	70	0
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	0	3	96	1
Hay & Roughage	4	10	81	5

VS=Very Short SH=Short AD=Adequate S=Surplus

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2004	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Emerged	100	100	100	100
Spring Wheat Headed	40	14	27	19
Winter Wheat Headed	87	60	67	55
Barley Emerged	100	99	100	99
Barley Headed	17	8	13	15
Potatoes Emerged	96	78	98	97
Corn Planted	99	99	98	98
Corn Emerged	89	69	84	75
Dry Edible Beans Planted	93	84	99	75
Alfalfa Hay 1 st Cutting	75	70	81	71
Alfalfa Hay 2 nd Cutting	1	0	0	0

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	1	3	23	54	19
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	18	67	15
Spring Wheat Dryland	0	7	30	59	4
Spring Wheat Irrigated	2	1	24	63	10
Barley Dryland	0	1	34	62	3
Barley Irrigated	0	0	15	85	0
Potatoes	0	0	16	64	20
Corn	0	0	4	75	21
Dry Edible Beans	0	2	24	71	3

VP=Very Poor P=Poor F=Fair G=Good EX=Excellent

- Crop conditions are a measurement of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Clark/Skamania/Cowlitz/Wahkiakum: After most of a week having warm and dry weather, the rain and clouds returned. Weather for the last week was cooler and quite unsettled. Approximately one half of an inch of rainfall was received since Wednesday, June 1. The cooler, wetter weather recently caused concerns about rust and fungus in berry crops. While the damage may show up later on caneberries, it is not evident yet. According to growers, the crops looked exceptionally good. Growers began harvest of the earlier varieties of strawberries and the local crop is getting rave reviews for size, color, and flavor.

Grays Harbor: Agricultural producers took advantage of nearly ideal conditions for sowing vegetable crops. The warm temperatures and adequate soil moisture resulted in quick germination of vegetable seeds planted only a week ago. Approximately half of the sweet corn acreage in the county was seeded and about half of that acreage was already germinated, creating ribbons of green across the chocolate brown fields. Christmas tree growers continued spraying for aphids on true firs and fungus diseases on Grand Fir. Greenhouse tomato growers had prolific fruit set after last week's warm temperatures. Livestock producers continued harvesting forage and applying liquid manure to recently harvested fields.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: Cool weather continued and showers fell over the weekend. Farmers were hoping for dry weather to resume for forage harvest and to finish planting.

Kitsap: Cloudy cool weather helped crop recovery from record setting temperatures the week before. Some irrigation was necessary for young vegetable crops. Bedding plants were still being featured at area farmers markets.

Mason: Pasture rotation progressed with adequate regrowth due to mild temperatures with cloudy days and intermittent showers. Producers were irrigating corn and nursery stock this past week. Grass hay was headed up but soil moisture combined with possible rainfall precluded any haying at the present time.

Pacific: Mostly sunny weather provided growers with lots of opportunity to complete a number of early season activities. First of the year hay operations were completed, with pastures in mostly excellent condition due to spring showery weather. Cranberry bogs were showing good growth, and growers continued weed control efforts. Shellfish farmers harvested third year oysters for processing, and transplanted

newly seeded cultch to grounds in the bay. Christmas tree growers continued their weed and pest control programs.

San Juan: Cool conditions with some showers. Not much haying was going on. Hay quality started to go downhill the longer it remained in the field.

Skagit: Strawberries were just starting to be harvested.

Skagit/San Juan/Island: Weather was mild this past week with some rain showers. No apparent crop damage reported due to rains. Water levels and soil moisture seemed to be adequate at this time.

Snohomish/King: Heavy rains early in the week slowed field work. Sun scorch damage showed up on some plants from the earlier hot weather. Some farmers managed to make hay and get it under cover during the good weather but some hay had been rained on. Grass was harvested for the second time.

Thurston: Agricultural producers welcomed a week of cooler temperatures after last week's stifling heat wave. The long day length and warm temperatures, combined with adequate soil moisture provided ideal growing conditions for most crops. Many livestock producers were already harvesting a second cutting of forage. Christmas tree growers continued applying both insecticides and fungicides to plantations. U-Pick strawberry growers began harvesting a few early berries. Home gardeners were harvesting lettuce, radishes, and green onions.

Thurston (2nd Report): Producers have planned on haylage this year, due to the rain. Hay should be harvested this upcoming week. Hay ground looked great, and was still holding from a chicken manure fertilizing two years ago. First cut round bales were wrapped in white plastic. Second cutting planned for mid July, in square bales. Third cutting should be around Labor Day, in square bales.

Whatcom: A midweek shower did not appear to slow down activity as spring work was in full swing. Strawberry growers began to take off their first picking by the end of the week, while the planting of grass and annual field crops continued.

Central

Benton: There was some rain this past weekend with wind and cooler than normal conditions which helped lower demand of water. There was some alfalfa down that was affected by the showers from the weekend. The start of cherry harvest was reported in the east part of the county.

Benton (2nd Report): Asparagus cutting, weed control and irrigation were major activities. Apple thinning and cover sprays were on-going.

Chelan/Douglas: Precipitation received on Sunday. This moisture will be a critical difference in the winter wheat crop, which is heading out. The spring wheat/barley crops will also be helped. The majority of the first cutting of hay was bailed, and was not affected by the rain. The cool windy conditions that followed the rain, should help prevent problems with the cherry crop. Several producers were using helicopters to dry the crop. Any possible damage was still unknown. The moisture will also help rejuvenate the spring pastures. Livestock water continued to be a problem.

Franklin : Rain on Sunday prompted the use of helicopters for drying cherries to avoid spitting of the fruit. Some timothy and alfalfa hay was cut and curing when the rain hit and stopped activity in the field. The timely rains have helped dryland wheat yield potential.

Franklin (2nd Report): The past week was cooler than the prior week (which was abnormally warm). Several light spotty showers occurred. First cutting hay was rained on but not near to the severity of quality damage seen last year. All row crops were in normal stages of growth for this time of year. Insects have been more a problem early on this year as

well as some talk of crop disease conditions.

Grant: Heavy rains and isolated hail storms were received on June 5, 2005. This was good for dryland wheat operators and cattlemen with native pastures, but not so good for hay growers with late first cutting alfalfa hay down. Possible damage also sustained to cherry orchards. Bean planting continued, with first cutting timothy to begin sometime in the very near future.

Grant (2nd Report): Some first cut timothy was in the windrow.

Kittitas: Extremely warm weather over Memorial Day weekend sped grass maturation and prompted many farmers to begin cutting hay. Most of the timothy remains uncut. The week of cool, windy weather with some showers was a relief to those who thought we were in for months of 90 plus degree weather.

Kittitas (2nd Report): Area received scattered showers over the weekend, but could see some cutting as early as tomorrow. Partly cloudy conditions with some isolated showers are expected and the area may see isolated thunderstorms in the early part of the afternoons in the upcoming week. Chance of precipitation expected to be 20 to 30 percent.

Yakima: Average temperatures ranged from 15 degrees above normal to 7 degrees below normal, with .06 of an inch of precipitation. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported.

Eastern

Adams: Another round of weekend showers continued to assist grain development for dryland, and most first cutting hay got in between the storms. It was a good week overall. Rust was reported in some wheat crops.

Asotin/Garfield: Each time thus far this spring when crops began to show signs of moisture stress, Mother Nature has provided relief with timely rains. This past week was no exception. Even though temperatures cooled from the heat over Memorial Day weekend, it was clear that crops were out of moisture. Moisture stress was most evident in recropped wheat and barley. Over the weekend rains came and provided needed relief. Rangeland improved in the upper elevations. The lower elevation rangeland was another story as a few producers reported how poor the grass production has been in these areas due to the early drought conditions.

Ferry/Okanogan: The county received about six days of good weather that allowed producers to be out in the fields. Sunday brought some welcomed precipitation of up to .75 of an inch in portions of the county. Temperatures were close to normal for this time of year. Fruit crops looked good, no reports of damage. With the recent rains, the spring and winter wheat crops looked good. There were still some acres to be planted to spring grains in the higher elevations. Pastures were holding up well. The rains we received greatly enhanced the conditions. We were still getting a few reports from cattlemen that some water sources were low or not running. About 25 percent of irrigated hay was swathed and baled. Some hay was still in the windrow and got soaked from Sunday's rain. Dryland hay crops also looked good with the recent rains that were received.

Garfield: Most of the area's cattle were on summer range. Rain on Sunday 0.25 of an inch with colder temperatures helped ground conditions. Rust abated by hot weather experienced a week ago.

Lincoln: Winter wheat crops still looked good, with some drying in southern part of the county.

Pend Oreille: Temperature high was at 75 degrees and the low was at 35 degrees with precipitation at .75 of an inch. Combination of sun and rain caused hay and related crops to be doing extremely well for this time of the year.

Stevens: Rain showers during the past week prevented hay producers from putting up hay. Sunday the county received a good soaking rain. Grain crops and pasture ground continued to look good.

Walla Walla: Weather over the past week was cooler with a couple of light showers. Some areas were showing affect of drought, but much of the area crops showed promise of good yields.

Whitman: Rain showers brought improved soil moisture conditions. Rainfall was very heavy at times at the end of the week. Temperatures were cooler than normal. Crops looked very good.

Weekly Weather Statistics

June 6, 2005

Station	Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days				Last Week Precipitation			Season Precipitation			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	Base 50F		Base 60F		Total			Total		% Normal	Days
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	Inches	DFN	Days	Inches	DFN		
WEST															
Bellingham	49	66	57	0	48	3	1	-5	0.45	-0.03	3	35.29	3.19	110	135
Everett	49	66	57	-1	48	-4	1	-6	0.54	0.00	3	24.20	-8.07	75	132
Hoquiam	50	62	56	1	47	7	0	0	0.32	-0.27	4	52.74	-10.60	83	161
Kelso	46	72	59	2	62	9	5	-2	0.38	-0.18	3	26.50	-15.56	63	113
Olympia	42	67	57	1	49	5	1	-3	0.55	0.13	3	37.18	-10.17	79	141
Sea-Tac	50	66	58	-2	56	-3	0	-7	0.11	-0.27	3	29.10	-5.09	85	121
Shelton	42	66	56	-3	46	-13	0	-11	0.26	-0.21	3	50.99	-10.58	83	134
Tacoma	48	66	57	-2	51	-8	0	-7	0.07	-0.36	2	25.01	-11.12	69	109
Vancouver	47	72	59	1	61	3	5	-5	0.55	0.07	3	27.30	-10.81	72	131
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	46	81	61	3	80	16	18	3	0.16	0.02	2	6.65	-1.23	84	76
Stampede Pass	39	56	46	2	2	-5	0	0	0.78	0.01	4	57.19	-18.46	76	151
Wenatchee	51	86	65	2	105	13	39	9	0.06	-0.08	1	5.16	-2.03	72	59
Yakima AP	40	87	62	1	85	7	21	0	0.06	-0.08	1	5.67	-1.33	81	73
NORTHEAST															
Colville	43	88	62	5	89	31	24	11	0.58	0.16	4	16.47	-1.52	92	87
Deer Park	41	78	56	-3	45	-12	1	-10	0.80	0.45	3	17.00	1.12	107	102
Spokane AP	45	78	58	-1	55	-4	6	-6	0.58	0.23	3	12.41	-1.72	88	88
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	49	87	65	-1	104	1	37	-1	0.49	0.35	2	5.39	-0.91	86	55
Moses Lake	45	87	64	-2	98	-5	31	-7	0.52	0.38	1	5.75	-0.55	91	53
Quincy	49	89	65	3	109	21	39	11	0.04	-0.10	1	5.29	-1.47	78	47
Ritzville	41	85	60	2	71	10	14	1	0.05	-0.14	2	8.07	-1.95	81	57
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	47	87	66	-3	113	-10	43	-10	0.00	-0.08	0	3.31	-2.30	59	41
Pasco	53	89	67	2	119	10	49	6	0.41	0.27	1	4.86	-1.82	73	57
Pullman	38	75	55	-2	38	-7	0	-7	0.30	-0.06	1	5.57	-12.76	30	63
Whitman Miss.	45	88	64	3	102	19	33	9	0.06	-0.15	1	9.42	-2.54	79	87
ID PANHANDLE															
Coeur D'A' AP	45	82	58	-2	61	-5	13	-1	0.10	-0.40	2	10.45	-11.75	47	72
Lewiston ID	48	90	65	3	108	18	40	12	0.01	-0.34	1	9.92	-0.07	99	83

Summary based on NWS data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Wednesday September 1, 2004

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

NA = Data Unavailable

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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